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3 September 2021

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE FINANCIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PROGRESSIVE ALLIANCE 2021

3 SEPTEMBER 2021, 15.00 – 15.45 HRS VIA ZOOM

Participants:

- Peter Hug – SP Switzerland, International auditor
- Johan Hassel – Social Democratic Party Sweden (SAP)
- Rainer Vogt – SPD Germany (SPD)
- Trudy Jackson – Australian Labor Party (ALP)
- Conny Reuter – Progressive Alliance

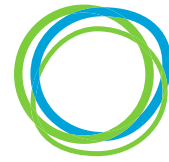
1) Welcome

The Global Coordinator welcomed the participants and thanked them for their participation and support. He reminds that according to the Guiding Principles, the Financial Committee has to prepare the financial statement to the board.

The treasurer has reviewed the external audit and prepared his report he will present at a later stage.

Until this date the following parties offered again voluntary contributions :

ALP – Australia :	5.000€
SPD – Germany :	100.000€
NDI – USA :	6.270€
PvdA – Netherlands :	5.000€
PS Switzerland :	5.000€
SPÖ Austria :	5.000€
SDP Denmark :	5.000€



Johan Hassel points out that his party would have contributed in 2021 by organising a PA event/forum which – due to the pandemic – cannot take place as foreseen, but is however envisaged for spring 2022.

[In the meantime SAP Sweden has contributed with 10.000€ for 2021]

2) Overview financial situation

The Coordinator presents the financial situation (*see attached accountant statement*) . Due to the virtual activities the accounts show a very positive result. The voluntary contributors have maintained their engagement, especially SPD Germany. As far as activities can be carried out in the month to come, the reserve will be used to finance larger activities this autumn and the coming year. PA is already engaged in the coming month in the preparation of Latin America weeks (October) and Global Progressive Forum (November).

The expenditures were mainly on communication, simultaneous translation and the support of the S&D Africa week. The political focus was on the campaign on Vaccine Equality and the series of conferences on Resilient Democracies which took virtually place in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe. They were realised in partnership with FEPS and supported by FES too.

The global cooperation with ITUC led to a joint seminar on a New Social Contract. Solidarity actions were carried on Nicaragua, Myanmar, Tunisia and Belarus.

He presents an overview on the PA activities since last board meeting in September 2020 (see attached document nr.2).

As far as the actual situation of the pandemic allows, the coordinator will assist to the SDP Denmark party congress on 18 and 19 September. It is also foreseen to join the party congress in Burkina Faso on 24 September.

3) Accounts 2020



The coordinator presents the accounts 2020 and the treasurer completed with his report (*see attached treasurer report*).

4) Recommendation to the board – discharge

Following the treasurer's proposal, the Financial Committee agreed to propose to the board the acceptance of the budget carried in 2020 and the discharge.

5) Upcoming activities

Having completed the series on Resilient Democracies and based on a report of the FEPS Young Academic Network, the coordinator will present a resolution on the topic to the next board meeting to take place on 1 October 2021 at 3pm CET.

Following an initiative by Phil Twyford, Disarmament Minister in New Zealand, the idea would be to engage to work on Disarmament, Security and Conflict Resolution taking into account also the recent events in Afghanistan showing the limits of military action to implement resilient democracy. A proposal shall be submitted to the board.

Furthermore the ambition must be to raise the visibility of Progressive Alliance through a renewed commitment of its members. The situation in the regions is quite different, however stable except Central and Western Africa. This is due to the inactivity of the regional coordinator in Central Africa on one hand and the tentatives of the SI Secretary General to persuade the parties to leave Progressive Alliance on the other.

With the end of the 3 years term of the Global Coordinator, the next year shall also be used for a strategic debate on the further development of PA. Does the actual structure correspond in times of personalisation of politics ? Might there be a opportunity for developing around 3 pillars : parties, trade union movement and civil society/think tanks ?



Johan thanks for the good work realised and welcomes the proposals calling for a open minded discussion leading to an improved global positioning of PA. Both Peter and Johan consider that the topic on disarmament, security and conflict resolution might be appropriate for the positioning of PA and they commit their parties' contribution.

When it comes to possible reform processes of SI, Johan does not see the necessity of putting a potential merger on the agenda due to the particularity of PA as global cooperation platform.

On the request of Trudy the coordinator stated that actually there is no formal membership application.

Peter Hug informed at the end of the meeting that he will end his mandate in 2022 and not stand again.

Conny thanked the participants for their support and the exchanges and closed the meeting.